



# *5 HABITS OF SUCCESSFUL COLLEGE CANDIDATES*





# ***NO TWO STUDENTS ARE EXACTLY ALIKE,***

but those who get into their top colleges often share certain habits. By adopting (or reinforcing) these five habits on your own, you'll be in a better position to get noticed by your first-choice college.



## ***RISE TO THE CHALLENGE.***

**A challenging course load is a good indicator that you take your education seriously and are looking ahead to the demands of college-level academics. As you progress through high school, try to take on higher-level or even advanced placement classes where available. By putting in the extra effort now, you'll better prepare yourself for college ... and the real world beyond it.**

At Point Park University, our academic philosophy is one that emphasizes experiential learning and close interaction between students and faculty. With a 13:1 student-to-faculty ratio, you'll receive the personal attention you deserve from faculty who bring their real-life professional work experience into the classes they teach. This makes for a more intimate and engaging learning experience – ideal conditions for our career-ready approach to education.

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## ***BE PREPARED.***

**Preparation is often the key to success, especially when it comes to college admission. Get a head start on the application process by reviewing the deadlines and requirements for each school on your target list. Also, be sure to schedule some time with your guidance counselor to ask questions and discuss the best way to move forward. You'll have a much better handle on things overall if you know what to expect ahead of time.**

Few schools are as determined to prepare you for a successful career as Point Park University. Our professionally inspired curriculum is designed to bring students into the real world from day one. Our Downtown Pittsburgh location is steps away from a variety of internship and cooperative education (paid, full-time employment with corporate partners while earning college credits) opportunities that few universities can match. And our Professional Career-Readiness Center is always ready to help students and alumni develop the professional skills needed to achieve their goals.

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## STAY INVOLVED.

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Having a variety of extracurricular activities on your record shows that you're motivated and driven to succeed. It's also a great way to meet people and discover new interests. Do you enjoy photography? Try joining the yearbook staff. Writing? Give the school newspaper a shot. You can even see about starting your own club if it doesn't already exist. By getting involved, you'll make the most of your time in high school and have fun doing it.

College is more than just the classroom. That's why we encourage every student to take part in any of our 50+ student-run organizations, from action sports to forensic science to improv comedy and beyond. And yes, if we don't have it, you can create it yourself. Getting involved outside the classroom is an important part of the overall college experience, and Point Park students have plenty of opportunities to build their cocurricular transcripts.





A nighttime photograph of the Pittsburgh skyline, featuring several illuminated skyscrapers and bridges. The city lights are reflected in the calm water in the foreground. The sky is a deep blue with some wispy clouds. The overall mood is serene and urban.

## 4

## ***BALANCE IT OUT.***

**If you plan on maintaining strong academic performance, be sure to take a break every now and then. Treat your leisure time as a reward for your hard work, as it gives you a chance to relax, refocus and recharge. See a movie with friends, read a book, pursue your hobbies – whatever you enjoy doing with your “me time.” By finding the right mix of work and play, you’ll have more energy for both.**

Thanks to our location in Downtown Pittsburgh, Point Park students have no shortage of options for recreation. We’re a short walk away from hundreds of restaurants, shops, parks, concerts, theaters, festivals, four professional sports teams and other fun and exciting venues. And our proximity to the picturesque, 36-acre Point State Park connects students to 24 miles of riverfront trails – another perk of college life in a world-class city.



## ***DO YOUR RESEARCH.***

**It's very important to research every school on your target list so that when you're ready to apply, you'll do so knowing that each option will meet your needs. Talk to alumni to discuss their personal experiences. Above all, visit as many college campuses as possible. There's no better way to gauge the suitability of a campus than by seeing it in person and meeting the students and faculty.**

From the moment you set foot on our dynamic, urban campus, you'll realize how Point Park's innovative experiential learning opportunities are ideal for launching your career path. Our thriving community serves as a central hub for students and working professionals to interact with one another. Our facilities provide a modern, comfortable setting to live and work, and our downtown location puts you in the heart of one of America's greatest cities.

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We'd love for you and your family to take a look around our dynamic Pittsburgh campus with an in-person or virtual tour. It's a great way to see more of what Point Park has to offer and the opportunities you could have as a college student in the heart of a world-class city.

**Register today for your  
on-campus or virtual visit  
at [PointPark.edu/Visit](https://PointPark.edu/Visit).**